

HELLO AGAIN

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A PERSONAL NOTE: Many thanks for all the nice holiday cards and good wishes for Karen and myself...I have just written a book on teaching piano with the emphasis on how to play popular music. This 200 - page book comes with a songbook of 200 songs. It is best used by a student under the guide of a piano teacher but can be used by older students alone.

REMINISCING: On January, 1970, my first "catalog" of 105 shows was issued using a purple duplicating process which was common in many schools (I taught school then). The shows included 14 Green Hornet, 4 Jack Benny and 12 Shadow. The first supplement followed in February and the second in March with a little information about myself. The April supplement had its first page titled "Comments and Tidbits." I discussed how I graded the shows and thanked the people whom I was trading with at the time. The only ones who currently subscribe are Ed Corcoran, Dave Swift and Mel Shlank. Other early traders were Dick Ayers, Don Boates, Roger Hill and Don Koehnemann. The May "Comments and Tidbits" section was a page and a half. New trading friends that month included Pat McCoy, Chuck Schaden and Bob Vito. I started mentioning clubs (Nostalgia Book club and Radio Historical Society of America.). The June supplement had no "Comments" section. **"HELLO AGAIN"** officially hit the newsstands in June. It was three pages long and free. It was Volume 1, Number 3. The main purpose of the newsletter, as stated then and now, is to write about you, the trader and collector. New traders included John Furman. The July issue had much of the information which is now in my Guide for Beginning Collectors. I started using headings which has continued. **Here and There**, which led to **Old and New Friends**, started. New friends included Dick Hayes, Fred McFadden and Bruce Ruggles. I also started asking for donations. The August issue was mimeographed. I had purchased a used mimeograph machine. Unfortunately, many of the issues for the first few years had streaks and fades due to machine problems. Covers were often drawn by various people including my son, Jeff, who, as many of my older friends now, passed away in 1982. In the September issue I started having quizzes. New friends included Raleigh Barker, Meade Frierson, Chris Lembesis, Jr. and Don Pellow. The October issue had 8 pages. New friends included Rosa Rio. The November issue mentioned Roy Bright, Ken Gackler, Howard Brenner (Mar-Bren) and Mel Simons. New friends in the December issue included John Cooper and Bill Blalock (now deceased).

Subscription was \$2.00 a year starting in April of 1971.

Today's subscription is \$10 a year for 6 issues. The format is basically the same - a lot of information under "predictable" headings. I now use a MAC SE and a local copy store. Many thanks to those old and new friends who have been with me during the years. Starting with this issue I will reprint some information from past issues.

CONVENTION '88: Soon after the convention I visited Bob Steele, morning man on WTIC in Hartford. He has been with WTIC for 52 years. I presented him a special award from the FOTR.

CONVENTION '89: Full details will appear in the next issue of HA. Some details follow. Our first committee meeting was on Jan. 22nd. The dates are **October 19-21** at the Holiday Inn North, Newark. It will start on Thursday around **12 noon**. Friday will now be a full day with dealers tables running from **9 to about 4:30** and workshops starting at that time, also. The Saturday hours for dealers will still be 9 to 3. Possible re-creations will include The March of Time, Ellery Queen, My Little Margie, My Client Curly or another Norman Corwin show, Gateway to Hollywood and perhaps Archie Andrews. Norman Corwin and Gale Storm will be approached to be two of our guests. Our theme will be Radio and the War Years. Doris Milberg is thinking of doing a panel on War News with newscasters as guests. Gary Yoggy is thinking of doing a related workshop of radio during the war years emphasizing its patriotic and propagandistic role. Jack French has offered to do a workshop on radio traitors of WWII. Also the Dave Warren players will perform. All suggestions will be considered. Please send them to me. Also, if you wish to help, run a workshop, etc., please let me know.

One major project before the convention is to incorporate and become nonprofit. If this is the case, your registration fee will be tax deductible.

RADIO IS ALIVE AND WELL: Lost Ted Healey/Three Stooges feature "Myrt and Marge," named for the popular CBS radio show, discovered in the vaults of Universal Pictures, aired on cable in December...Radio is alive and well in Rochester, MN. **Clint Kueker**, 327-20th Ave. SW, Rochester, MN 55902 just produced and directed the 3rd annual presentation of **REMEMBER RADIO** for the benefit of the Olmsted County Historical Society. This year, on October 29, his amateur actors presented re-creations of Inner Sanctum's "The Wailing Wall" and an episode of The Life of Riley. Three hundred people attended. Clint collects Lone Ranger memorabilia, having possibly the largest, private collection in the country...NPR's "All Things Considered" offered its second annual Christmas pageant on Dec. 23, featuring an original radio play by children's book author **Daniel Pinkwater**...Fordham University in New York just started a course on the work of Edward R. Murrow called "The Murrow Years: 1938 to 1965." It follows his career and contributions to broadcast journalism from his accounts of the German bombings of London to his television documentary works. The four-credit undergraduate course will be taught by Joseph Dembo, formerly with CBS for 28 years...Jeopardy, TV's #2 syndicated game show, will make its radio debut on March 20, 1989. It is being offered to the top 100 markets.

According to Broadcasting, Dec. 26 issue, "Leonard Maltin on Video," a daily 90-second program focusing on home video, will debut on radio on Feb. 6. Maltin, a regular featured commentator on Entertainment Tonight, will host the show...Sam Brylawski, reference librarian of the Library of Congress, hosted a meeting of the local chapter of the "Association for Recorded Sound Collections" on January 30th. His talk was about NBC radio at the Library of Congress.

AFTRA: Actress **Beth Holland** was elected president of the 25,000 - member New York local of AFTRA. Other officers are **Ruth Franklin**, **Martha Greenhouse**, **Lois Davis**, **Janette Gautier**, **Jackson Beck**, **Ann Loring** and **Elaine LeGar**. As I get information about AFTRA, I will pass it along.

PUBLICATIONS RECEIVED: **TAPE SQUEAL**, Nov-Dec; articles on songs with the word "Mammy" in the title and on the recent song, "Kokomo," and many others with the word in the title...**ORCA Newsletter**, winter; nice review of our convention...**Metropolitan Washington OTR Club Newsletter**; Jan; articles on The Broadcast Pioneers Library in Washington and The Shadow...**Nostalgia Digest**; Feb-Mar; articles on Ronald Colman, Care and reproduction of deteriorating tape recording, and the Andrews Sisters...**Illustrated Press**; Jan; the entire issue contains the ABC's of OTR - A Basic Primer...**Old-time Radio Digest**, Nov-Dec; articles on Fred Allen

BOOKS AND MAGAZINES: **SCARECROW PRESS**, Box 4167, Metuchen, NJ 08840; (201) 548-8600. I reviewed two books published by Scarecrow Press last issue and neglected to put in their address...A workshop on the recently published **A Prairie Home Companion Folk Song Book** took place at the Library of Congress on January 10th. The book's compilers, Marcia and Jon Pankake, discussed how the selections were made. 1800 listeners submitted suggestions on the "Department of Folk Music" section of the recent radio program "A Prairie Home Companion" with Garrison Keillor. The book is published by Viking. My brother, **Joe Hickerson**, is the head of the Archive of Folk Culture at the Library of Congress. I have a copy of the book and it contains many entertaining parodies and original songs...I recently received **From Out Of the Past** by Dave Holland. It is a very detailed 440-page book on The Lone Ranger. It covers all aspects from radio to television to the screen to books. It is full of little known information and many pictures. Cost is \$40 from The Holland House, 17142 Index St, Granada Hills, CA 91344

LOGS: **Ray Stanich**, 173 Columbia Hts, Brooklyn, NY 11201 has 2 more logs; One is Inspector Thorne (7/20/51 - 9/27/51) - complete (for a SASE). The other is a complete log of Hollywood Hotel (10/5/34 - 12/2/38). Cost of this is \$2.00.

ORGANIZATIONS AND CONVENTIONS: HALL OF FAME: **Richard Hayes**, 59 Myrtle Ave, Cranston, RI 02910 wants to see if anyone has any ideas regarding a Hall of Fame for pop singers and big bands. Some of us have valuable collections which should be shared and donated for safekeeping when we're done with them. There is a National Academy of Popular Music and its Songwriters Hall of Fame which was formed by Abe Olman. It has over 50,000 pieces of sheet music, 800 piano rolls and 3000 record albums, etc. The archives are currently housed at Long Island University's C. W. Post Campus in Brookville, NY.

The next OTR convention is **Cincinnati's 3rd Annual OTR and Nostalgia Convention** on April 21 - 22, 1989 at the Marriott Inn, 11320 Chester Rd, Cincinnati, OH 45246. For more information contact Bob Burchett at 513-961-3100

CATALOGS AND NEW SHOWS: **Bob Burnham** (BRC PRODUCTIONS), Box 2645, Livonia, MI 48151 has a new cassette and video catalog (winter 1988/89). Highlights include OTR bumper stickers and new Red Skelton, 6 new Jack Benny from 1940, many Challenge of the Yukon and new Rocky Jordan...**Carolyn and Joe Senter** (CLASSIC SPECIALTIES), Box 19058, Cincinnati, OH 45219 are selling unusual OTR products such as scarves, shirts, ties and vests. Send a large SASE for their catalog.

Inquiries have been made concerning the new **Sherlock Holmes** programs acquired a few years ago. A limited album set of 2 of the shows was issued by 221 "A" Baker Street Associates, Box 351453, Los Angeles, CA 90035. **Dick Mullins**, one of my subscribers, is co-producer of the shows and has filled me in on details. The shows are from 1945-47. Dick and Ken Greenwald, his associate, spent many months getting the clearance to release the shows. In 1987, the above album was released. The album was so successful that Simon and Schuster released the album on audio cassette. It sold so well that 26 more cassettes are being produced for their books on cassette market. In the spring of 1989, American Express will be releasing this series to their cardholders. The series will also be sold in Walden Books, B Dalton, Crowns Books and many other book and record stores. Many people involved with the Sherlock Holmes series introduce each cassette with stories about doing live radio. Some people used are Ben Wright, Glenhall Taylor, Phyllis White, Mary Green, Harry Bartel, Peggy Webber and others. Other projects planned include: 1. Starting in May doing mini dramas with many Sherlockian characters introducing the shows. They will be done with original radio actors, sound effects, etc. 2. Adapting many radio plays to short stories. These will be available from Bantam Books in the early summer of this year. My congratulations to some very ambitious and rewarded projects.

NEW FRIENDS AND RETURNEES: **William Marshall Jr.**, 9 Hinton St - 2nd Floor, Staten Island, NY 10312...**Jim Rodgers**, 10340 SW 41st, Portland, OR 97219.

James Robert Parish, 4338 Gentry Ave #1, Studio City, CA 91604. James is the author of 75 books on the entertainment industry including **COMPLETE ACTORS TV CREDITS** in several volumes. Most of his books are movie books. His current project is on Hollywood singers and would welcome any information on all aspects of the multimedia careers (especially radio) of Harry Belafonte, Bobby Breen, Rosemary Clooney, Sammy Davis Jr., Lena Horne, Gene Kelly, Frances Langford, Ethel Merman and Ann Southern.

David Chute, 25 West Wind Rd, Andover, MA 01810...**Charles Kramer**, 63 East 7th St #2, NYC, NY 10003...**Peter Roseboom**, 52 Mill St, Binghamton, NY 13903...**Thomas Repko**, 126 East Marigold St, Munhall, PA 15120...**Eric Baelen**, 104 Old Orchard Rd, Cherry Hill, NJ 08003...**Art Pierce**, 339 Nassau St, Rome, NY 13440 would like any show with Jean Arthur. He has 9 shows and is aware of at least 7 others including 1 Hollywood Hotel, 2 Rudy Vallee, 2 Lux, a Screen Guild and a Ford Theater. Art is also very interested in getting more information about Lux Radio Theater, especially more complete casts of each show...**Marty Decker**, 2409 Golf Rd #1, Eau Claire, WI 54701...**Marvin Hout**, 12105 Foxhill Ln, Bowie, MD 20715 is looking for a particular episode of "Big Story." It was on Nov 3, 1948 and was about his father, Billy Hout, reporter for the Champaign (Ill) News Gazette. It was also on TV. He would like a video and/or audio tape...**Stanley Rubenstein**, 2735 Beebe Dr, Cutchogue, NY 11935...**Robert Kramer**, 4415 Dipan Ave, Cheyenne, WY 82001. Robert is looking for all the shows he can find of "The Great Gildersleeve."...**Pat Battle**, 100 Belmont Pl 1E, Staten Island, NY 10301 is looking for the date of a particular episode of "Treasury Star Parade" called "Return to Beichtesgaden" starring Conrad Veidt. The show was syndicated so an approximate date will have to do. She also wants any others shows with Conrad Veidt

OLD FRIENDS: **Jon Swartz**, 1401 E 18th St, Georgetown, TX 78626 would like OTR magazines (Radio Guide, Radio Stars, etc.)...**Marty Lewin** writes of an interesting and emotional experience. **Chuck Schaden** recently aired the famous Truth or Consequences Christmas Show from 12/20/47, featuring a disabled veteran from North Carolina. He then interviewed him by phone, 41 years later...**Larry and John Gassman** got a great writeup in the January, 1989 issue of Guideposts Magazine. The blind twins broadcast the Pasadena Tournament of Roses Parade each year. This year the parade was on January 2nd, the Gassman's 34th birthday and the parade's 100th...I got a note from **Dick Ayres** who is now retired and doing very little trading. He would like to sell his collection which consists of thousands of shows. If anyone is interested, send Dick a SASE at 316 Main St, Plaistow, NH 03865 for details.

Barbara Davies, Box 463, Mansfield Center, CT 06250 (**Treasure Hunters**) may have just what you are looking for; and if she doesn't, Barbara will try to find it for you - all kinds of radio and nostalgia memorabilia; magazines, big little books, sheet music, program guides, games, comics, books, premiums of all kinds. If you were at our convention, you will remember her the past 2 years. Many other areas of nostalgia are available including World's Fair, Marilyn Monroe, Elvis, valentines, etc.

REMINISCING: From May 1970: Roger Hill was teaching and working toward his masters; Chuck Schaden was in the public relations business and puts out a fine, descriptive catalog. Shamrock tape is used quite often; trading was only done with reels - no cassettes yet. People mentioned whom I have since lost track of or who have passed away include Dee Magers, Fred Province, Bill Wesley, Don Racette, Bill Hennessey, Bill Hillman, Peter Bayer, Bill Blalock (deceased), Vern Eldridge, Steve Hofar. If any of my readers know of the whereabouts of any of the above, please let me know...**From June 1970:** Ed Corcoran has around 5000 shows (a lot for 1970). He is on WTIC in Hartford periodically on programs about early radio. Ed has been collecting since the 50's. John Furman just started trading. Pat McCoy has a fast growing collection and is interested in all shows. David Swift has a varied listing and many Guest Stars taped from discs. Dave is also interested in radio premiums, comic books, etc. Mel Shlank is a member of our local club and is in the master antenna business. He has many South African programs. Bob Vito is 39 and is an art director. He recently put out his final issue of **Stand By . . . On the Air**. These magazines were filled with very interesting items about early radio. Other people whom I have since lost track of are Wilbur Nitsch, Harry Sova.

IN FOND MEMORY: **Robert I. Queen**, Nov 30, 69; journalist and scriptwriter (*The Shadow*, *Green Hornet*, *Suspense*)...**Ruth Foreman**, Nov 22, mid-70's; very active in South Florida's regional theater community; was in *Stella Dallas*...**Anne Seymour**, Dec 8, 79; theater, film, radio and tv actress (*Story of Mary Marlin*, *Against the Storm*, *The Magnificent Montague*, *A Woman of America*)...**Jess Oppenheimer**, Dec 27, 75; cocreator and longtime head writer for "I Love Lucy." Also wrote for radio (*Baby Snooks*, *My Favorite Husband*)...**Noreen Gammill**, Dec 20, 90; radio actress (*Lux Radio Theater*, *Silver Theater*)...**Herbert Morrison**, Jan 10, 83; Herbert Morrison is best known for his emotional description of the crash of the Hindenburg 52 years ago...**Donald Voorhees**, 85, Jan 10; was musical director and conductor for the Bell Telephone Hour on radio and TV from 1940 - 1968.

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JAY HICKERSON, Box 4321, Hamden, CT 06514 (203) 248-2887 \$10/year